

31
171. The method of claim 168 wherein the device identification
code is a non-unique device code.

32
172. The method of claim 163 wherein the value stored in the
register is one of a plurality of available delay times.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment seeks to place this application in condition for allowance. The instant application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 08/798,520. Application Serial No. 08/798,520 has been allowed; the issue fee has been paid; and it will issue shortly.

In this continuation application, Applicants present new claims which set forth novel and unobvious features of Applicants' invention. Applicants submit new claims 151-172 to more fully protect the instant invention. No new matter has been added.

These newly submitted claims are believed to be fully supported by the specification as originally filed -- see, for example, Figures 2 and 10-13; page 14, line 3 to page 15, line 2; page 15, lines 18 to page 16, line 7; page 20, line 20 to page 21, line 20; page 23, line 6 to page 24, line 2; page 46, line 19 to page 48, line 17; and page 53, line 23 to page 59, line 2.

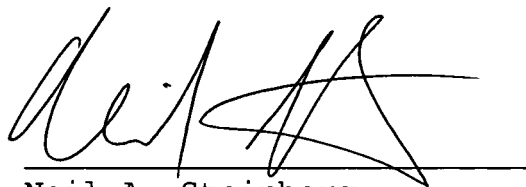
In addition, Applicants have amended the specification to correct obvious spelling, typographical and grammatical errors. No new matter has been added.

Finally, accompanying this Preliminary Amendment is a Request to Approve Drawing Changes. In that Request, Applicants seek to amend Figure 10 to more fully reflect the discussion in the specification, in particular, page 55, lines 12-16 and page 58, lines 13-23. The proposed changes are indicated in red. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner approve the proposed changes to Figure 10. A new Figure 10 which incorporates the changes is also attached to the Request.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendment prior to examination of this continuation application. Applicants submit that all of the claims present patentable subject matter which definitely set forth the novel and unobvious features of Applicants' invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



Neil A. Steinberg
Reg. No. 34,735
301-229-7706

Date: November 20, 1998